(c) whether Government have taken note of the news-item captioned "Do Rajyon ke liye sirdard ban gaye hain Naxali", appeared in the Rashtriya Sahara Page 9, dated the 2nd July, 2002;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the P.W.G. have threatened to kill the Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand; and

(e) if so, Government's thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) 9 States, namely - Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal are mainly affected by Left Wing extremism.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, there are reports of naxalites having links with Maoists (Nepal) and having equipped themselves with modern weapons.

(d) and (e) As per available information, CPML-PW Website had threatened to eliminate the Chief Ministers of these States in protest against State action launched against the outfit by the three States.

"Public Order" and "Polic" being the State subjects, it is for the concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps to curb left wing extremist violence in the States. However, keeping in view the overall dimensions of Left Wing extremism, a co-ordination Centre, headed by the Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the seriously affected Sates, as its Members, regularly reviews and coordinates steps taken by the States to check Left extremist activities. Besides, the Central Government also provides financial support and deployment of CPMF on a need basis. CPML-People's War (PW) and MCC have been notified as "Terrorist Organisations" under (POTA), 2002.

Crisis of Governance all over India

2912. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Human Rights Commission has opined that crisis of Governance all over India lies at the root of rapidly falling human index; and

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANEMI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) No such statement, has been made by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). However, the Commission has been emphasizing to all concerned the linkage between human development indices and good governance in the country.

Road accidents

2913. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India bears a heavy social cost of Rs.5500 crore annually in terms of fatalities and injuries in road accidents;

(b) whether with 8500 fatalities and 1275000 serious injuries every year, India accounts for 10 percent of road accidents and fatalities world-wide and 90 per cent of the accidents in India are becuase of drivers negligence; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to cultivate road-culture and proper road usage throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The Planning Commission has estimated the social cost of road accidents at around Rs.55,000 Crore annually.

(b) The fatalities in India due to road accidents during the last three years have been 79919, 81966 and 78911 for the years 1998, 1999 and 2000 respectively. So far as injuries in road accidents are concerned, the figures are 390674, 375051 and 399265 for the last three corresponding years respectively. The major cause of road accidents is drivers fault which constitutes 83.5% of the total number of accidents.

(c) The measures taken by the Government to promote road safety culture and proper road usage broadly fall under three categories i.e. the Engineering, Enforcement and Education. The Engineering measures include strengthening and widening of roads wherever necessary, improvement of road geometrics, provision of road signages, construction of by-passes etc. Enforcement of relevant provisions of Motor Vehicles Act and rules made thereunder is done by the respective States/Union territories. Other measures include; (i) Providing training to the drivers particularly in the unorganized sector, (ii) Publicity Campaigns for awareness among the road users and (iii) Various enforcement and